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Hartlepool Port Health Authority



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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE  
MEDICAL OFFICER  
OF HEALTH

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For the Year Ended 31st December  
1958

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By JOHN CRABB,  
M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G.



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# Hartlepool Port Health Authority

1958-59

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Chairman - - T. T. AIRD

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## Elected by West Hartlepool Corporation :

T. BREWARD, 14, Powlett Road, West Hartlepool.  
J. ADDISON, 49, Marston Gardens, West Hartlepool.  
J. BRATTON, J.P., (Mayor) 4, Westbrooke Gve., West Hartlepool.  
J. W. MILLER, 7, Southland Avenue, West Hartlepool.  
W. JONES, 24, Clifton Avenue, West Hartlepool.  
H. L. HOGG, C.B.E., J.P, 7, The Grove, West Hartlepool.  
G. P. K. GALLIMORE, Ambleside Manor, Elwick Road, West Hartlepool.  
K. D'ALBY, M.B.E., 30, Hutton Avenue, West Hartlepool.  
N. S. BROUGH, 17, Caledonian Road, West Hartlepool.  
J. H. McCRAINOR, 37, Linden Grove, West Hartlepool.

## Elected by Hartlepool Corporation :

T. T. AIRD, Mill House Inn, Throston Street, West Hartlepool.  
W. C. POUNDER, 4, Howden Road, Hartlepool.  
F. JACQUES, J.P., 3, Marine Drive, Hartlepool.  
W. W. EMERSON 4, Brus Corner Hartlepool.  
F. J. CARR, O.B.E., J.P., 32 St. Hilda St., Hartlepool.

## Fixed Days of Meetings

*At the Municipal Buildings, West Hartlepool.*

19th June, 1958	11th December, 1958	16th April, 1959
18th September, 1958	19th February, 1959	18th June, 1959

*Each day at 6-0 p.m.*

## Finance and Port Committees :

All the Members of the Authority are Members of these Committees.

*The Committees meet on the same day as the Meeting is held.*

## Officers :

Clerk .. ..	C. GILBERT BUNTING, Solicitor, Exchange Building, 66, Church Street, West Hartlepool. Telephone : 3132-3 (2 lines).
Medical Officer .. ..	J. CRABB, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G., 221, Stockton Rd., West Hartlepool. Telephone : 3035.
Deputy Medical Officer	JOHN T. SMITH, M.B., Ch.B., Owton Manor West Hartlepool. Telephone : 3044.
Inspector .. ..	R. J. KNOTT, M.B.E. Exchange Building, 66 Church St., West Hartlepool. Telephone: 2015.
Deputy Inspector ..	G. A. WARD, 12, Beaconsfield Street, Hartlepool, Telephone : 6112.
Rat-Catcher .. ..	H. MENHENNET, 19, Penrith Street, Hartlepool.



# ANNUAL REPORT

WEST HARTLEPOOL.

**To the Chairman and Members of the  
Hartlepool Port Health Authority.**

Gentlemen,

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health I beg to submit my annual report for the year ended 31st December, 1958.

In accordance with the instructions received from the Ministry of Health, certain sections which were fully reported for the year 1955 and in which there has been no change, are simply marked "NO CHANGE."

There has been a marked decrease in the number of ships entering the port, amounting to over eleven per cent, but owing to the increased size of some of the ships using the port, the decrease in tonnage is not so great, being only five per cent. There has been a decrease in the imports of all timber with the exception of sleepers, and also a decrease in the import of iron ore. The nuisance arising from the discharge of fine dry iron ore has not been completely overcome but it has been mitigated.

The export of coal is much the same as for the preceding year, the export of basic slag has decreased but that of magnesite has more than doubled.

There has been no case of infectious disease in the port during the year.

Work under the International Sanitary Regulations, 1951, has resulted in the issue of sixty-one deratting and deratting exemption certificates. The only fumigation carried out was that of a new vessel which was done at the owner's request. While traces of rats have been found in some of the ships searched no rats have been caught during the year.

Crews' accommodation continues to be improved with a correspondingly smaller number of nuisances which have had to be dealt with.

The work carried out by your Inspector, his deputy and the ratcatcher has been to my entire satisfaction, and a record of the Inspector's work is included in the report.

In conclusion I desire to express my thanks for the valuable assistance given me by the Chief Preventive Officer of H.M. Customs and his staff, to Captain Stathers, M.B.E., and his assistant dockmasters, to the Ministry of Transport Surveyor, to H.M. Immigration Officers and also to the Pilot Master and Pilots for their hearty co-operation with the officials of the authority.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

JOHN CRABB,

M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.T.M. & H., D.R.C.O.G.

*Port Medical Officer.*





## SECTION I—STAFF.

Table A.

“ NO CHANGE ”

## SECTION II—Amount of Shipping Entering the District during the year 1958.

Table B.

Ships from	No.	Tonnage	Number inspected		Number of ships reported as having or having had, during the voyage, infectious disease on board
			By the Medical Officer of Health	By the Sanitary Inspector	
Foreign Ports	358	421,497	61	356	—
Coastwise ..	858	905,859	42	776	Nil
Total ..	1,216	1,327,356	103	1,132	Nil

## SECTION III—Character of Shipping and Trade during the year.

Table C.

### Passenger Traffic—

This is not an approved Passenger Port and there is therefore no regular passenger traffic. Certain passengers are allowed to land subject to certain restrictions imposed by H.M. Immigration Office. The following information has been supplied through the courtesy of H.M. Immigration Officer, Middlesbrough and West Hartlepool.

No. of passengers INWARDS	53
No. of passengers OUTWARDS	23
Alien passengers embarked	13
Alien passengers landed	31

**Cargo Traffic—Principal Imports :—**

Sleepers	30,648	tons
Pitprops	67,548	„
Mining Timber	17,130	„
Sawn Wood	90,982	„
Other wood goods	322	„
Iron and Steel	2,449	„
Iron Ore	548,836	„
Wood pulp	8,563	„
Petroleum	15,300	„
Miscellaneous	151	„
Fish	1,591	„
Sago Flour	3,361	„

**Principal Exports :—**

Coal and Coke	2,012,488	tons
Magnesite	16,705	„
Machinery	1,563	„
General	2,196	„
Basic Slag	69,664	„

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*The above particulars have been supplied through the courtesy of the Docks and Inland Waterways Executive.*

## Principal Ports from which Ships Arrive—

Cargo	Foreign Ports
Props ..	Abo, Archangel, Arendal, Frederikshamm, Gamleby, Halden, Halmstad, Himanka, Jacobstad, Kalmar, Karlshamm, Kristianstad, Langesund, Leningrad, Lillesand, Lisbon, Mantylouto, Oskarshamm, Porsgrunn, Ronneby, Skien, Sodatalje, Uddavalla, Vent-spil, Wasa, Yxpila.
Timber ..	Amal, Archangel, Arendal, Blankaholm, Danzig, Drammen, Frederikshamm, Halden, Halmstad, Haparanda, Holmsund, Hommelvik, Igarka, Karlstad, Kalmar, Kemi, Kotka, Kristinehamn, Munksund, Norrköping, Onega, Oskarshamm, Raumo, Rundvik, Stettin, Walkom.
Wood pulp	Archangel, Kaliningrad, Murmansk, Riga, Sundsvall.
Sleepers	Bayonne, Bordeaux, Danzig, Haparanda, Kemi, Tornea.
Sago Flour	Delfziel, Groningen.
Iron Ore	Alicante, Conakry, Gefle, Kirkenes, La Goulette, Lulea, Narvik, Oxelosund, Pasajes, Pepel, Port Ordaz, Rouen, Sagunto, Santander, Seven Islands, Takoradi, Valencia, Victoria, Vigo.
Scrap Iron	Port of Spain.
Steel plates	Ymuiden.

Ships arrived light from—

Abo, Amsterdam, Antwerp, Brake, Dordrecht, Emden, Ghent, Gothenberg, Korsor, Rotterdam, Thisted, Ymuiden.

## SECTION IV—Inland Barge Traffic.

There is no such traffic.

## SECTION V—Water Supply.

“ NO CHANGE ”

## SECTION VI—Public Health (Ships) Regulations, 1952.

“ NO CHANGE ”

## SECTION VII—Smallpox.

(1) Smallpox patients would be sent to Langley Park Hospital, Langley Park, County Durham.

(2) Arrangements have been made with the County Borough of West Hartlepool to remove any smallpox cases arriving, or occurring, in the port, and they are responsible for the vaccinal state of the ambulance crews.

(3) Smallpox consultants available are :—

Dr. J. B. Robinson, Brierton Hospital, West Hartlepool  
and Dr. E. Thorpe, 13, The Broadway, Grindon, Sunderland.

(4) Facilities for the laboratory diagnosis of smallpox are at the Bacteriology Department, School of Hygiene, Liverpool.

## SECTION VIII—Venereal Disease.

“ NO CHANGE ”

## SECTION IX—Cases of Notifiable and other Infectious Diseases on Ships.

Table D.

Category	Disease	No. of cases during year		No. of ships concerned
		Passengers	Crew	
Cases landed from ships from foreign ports ..		Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases which have occurred on ships from foreign ports but have been disposed of before arrival .. ..		Nil	Nil	Nil
Cases landed from other ships .. .. .		Nil	Nil	Nil

## **SECTION X—Observations on the occurrence of Malaria in Ships.**

There have been no cases of malaria on ships in or arriving at the port.

## **SECTION XI—Measures taken against Ships infected with or suspected for Plague.**

There have been no such ships in the port.

## **SECTION XII—Measures against Rodents in Ships from Foreign Ports.**

### *(1) Procedure for Inspection of Ships for Rats—*

All ships arriving from foreign ports are searched as early as possible after arrival, to the extent that cargo will allow. After some of the cargo has been discharged from the holds further search is made.

### *(2) Arrangements for the Examination of Rodents—*

All rodents recovered are examined superficially by the Inspector or the rat-catcher and any showing signs of not having been in good health are sent for pathological and bacteriological examination to Dr. T. Blower, Pathologist, General Hospital, West Lane, Middlesbrough.

### *(3) Arrangements for Deratting of Ships—*

In case of a minor infestation on a ship holding a valid deratting or deratting exemption certificate the port Rat-catcher carries out trapping or poisoning or both.

Deratting for the issue of a Deratting Certificate is done with cyanide by private contractors to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer.

The Contractor is not nominated by the Medical Officer. Firms who undertake fumigations are :—

Ben Wright & Co. Ltd.	Middlesbrough
Barber & Heron & Co.	South Shields
Milburn & Co. Ltd.	Sunderland.
Scientex Ltd.	South Shields.

### *(4) Rat-proofing of ships—*

Rat-proofing of new vessels is satisfactory. Old tonnage is improved as is necessary and practical.

**Table E.**

**Rodents destroyed during the year in ships from foreign ports—**

Category	Number
Black rats .. ..	Nil
Brown rats .. ..	Nil
Species not known ..	Nil
Sent for examination ..	Nil
Infected with plague..	Nil

**Table F.**

**Deratting Certificates and Deratting Exemption Certificates issued during the year for ships from foreign ports—**

No. of Deratting Certificates issued				Total	No. of Deratting Exemption Certificates issued	Total Certificates issued
After fumigation with		After Trapping	After Poisoning			
H.C.N.	Other fumigant (state method)					
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	22	22

In addition 38 Deratting Exemption Certificates were issued to coastwise vessels and one new vessel was fumigated with H.C.N. at owner's request.

### SECTION XIII—Inspection of Ships for Nuisances.

**Table G.**

**Inspections and Notices—**

Nature and No. of inspections	Notices served		Result of serving notices
	Statutory notices	Other notices	
1132	Nil	17 Verbal & informal	All Complied with

The nuisances and sanitary defects consisted mainly of dirty and verminous quarters, defective and foul W.C.'s, defective ports and portlights, choked scuppers and waste pipes.

### SECTION XIV—Public Health (Shell-fish) Regulations 1943 and 1948.

**“NO CHANGE”**

### SECTION XV—Medical Inspection of Aliens.

This is not an approved port for the landing of aliens.

### SECTION XVI—Miscellaneous.

Dead bodies are removed immediately to the nearest mortuary and action taken to secure speedy interment of the same,





